Wisconsin State Legislature

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Joint Committee on Finance 100th Anniversary 1911 - 2011

MEMORANDUM

To:

Members

Joint Committee on Finance

From:

Senator Alberta Darling

Representative Robin Vos

Date:

October 19, 2011

Re:

DCF Report to JFC

Attached is a report on the Wisconsin Share program from the Department of Children and Families.

This report is being provided for your information only. No action by the Committee is required. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Attachments

AD:RV:jm

かな wisconsin department of children + families

201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200

P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

October 19, 2011

Honorable Alberta Darling, Senate Co-Chair Joint Committee on Finance Room 317 East, State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Honorable Robin Vos, Assembly Co-Chair Joint Committee on Finance Room 309 East, State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Vos:

This letter provides the Department of Children and Families' October 2011 report on the Wisconsin Shares Program. The information below is a compilation of data requested by the Committee related to DCF's fraud prevention, investigation and overpayment collection activity.

Wisconsin Shares Fraud Prevention, Detection and Recovery Expenditures, September 2011

Expenditures related to fraud prevention and investigation: \$129,800 The above amount represents the September 2011 costs of the Child Care Fraud Detection and Investigation Unit, information technology programming costs, and an estimate of county

Investigation Unit, information technology programming costs, and an estimate of count expenditures from their DCF allocations for investigating suspected fraudulent activity.

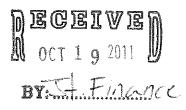
Expenditures related to recovering overpayments due to error or fraud: \$42,800 The September 2011 expenditures related to recovering overpayments due to error or fraud are estimated above. The Public Assistance Collections Unit (PACU) of DCF coordinates the Department's efforts to collect public assistance overpayments, including Wisconsin Shares, which are attributed to participant error or fraud.

Overpayment and/or restitution collected by DCF: \$146,741

In September 2011, DCF collected \$45,156 in child care overpayments that were the responsibility of the individual for whom the child care subsidy was paid plus \$101,585 in child care overpayments that were the responsibility of child care providers. These collections are the result of ongoing efforts to recover historical overpayments. Most collections to date are owed to DCF as a result of an administrative finding that an overpayment has occurred.

Governor Scott Walker Secretary Eloise Anderson

Secretary's Office



October 19, 2011 Page Two

Overpayment and/or restitution collected by other agencies: \$0 No overpayments and/or restitution collections have been reported by other agencies in September 2011 to DCF.

Providers Suspended from the Wisconsin Shares Program, September 2011

During the month of September, DCF suspended payments to thirteen child care providers. All thirteen were from Milwaukee County. The Department continues to review the details of Milwaukee County suspensions with the Child Care Anti-Fraud Task Force.

Also, during September a total of \$224,473 in overpayments were established in the Department's tracking system against all providers suspended from the Wisconsin Shares program. Through September the cumulative total for overpayments established against suspended providers since January of 2009 stands at \$8,423,165.

Automatic Authorization of Child Care Hours System

Number of changes made to authorized hours during the month: 1,899 changed authorizations This figure reports the total number of active authorizations in September that were reduced by the automated system.

Total reduction made to the authorized hours during the month: 21,367 hours
This figure reports the total number of hours taken off of active authorizations in September that were reduced by the automated system.

Estimated savings in the month due to the automated authorization adjustment system: \$137,900 This is an estimate of the maximum potential savings for those active authorizations in September that were reduced by the automated system.

Were child care quality improvements identified via use of the new system? To date, no. The system was launched on May 15, 2010 and was designed primarily to improve consistency in the authorization process rather than to identify opportunities for making quality improvements.

Estimated annualized ongoing costs to operate the automated system: \$50,000 The primary ongoing cost is for mailing notices to parents and providers. Ongoing staff time to run the automated check is estimated at 30 minutes per month.

Thank you for the opportunity to share information on the status of the Shares program.

Sincerely,

Eloise Anderson

Secretary

ce: Mike Huebsch, Department of Administration Bob Lang, Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Child Care Provider	County	Suspension Date	Suspension Reason	Stopped	Established	Law Tuforcement	Collection
Anais Family Day Care Center	Milwaukee	09/16/2011	The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during stated hours of operation; 2) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 3) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children at the provider's facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 5/2/2010 at 12:00 PM and was unsuccessful attempt to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Wisconsin Shares program for children who did not actually attend the provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 5/2/2010 at 12:00 PM even though the	Yes	\$37,037.79	Yes	8

Wisconsin Shares Provider Suspensions September 2011

Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records.	 Billed for more hours than children ac attended. 	The Department has evidence that the provid-	Department was unable to observe any childr attendance.
o did not appear on s or were marked as see records.	than children actually	that the provider:	serve any children in

Gwendolyn	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/16/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program and 2) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. Billed for more hours than children actually attended. Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records anticipating children's attendance, rather than being an actual record of children's attendance.	Suspension Reason
$Y_{ m es}$	Payment (Stopped
\$5,545.82	Payment Overpayment Referred to Collection Stopped Established Law Enforcement
Yes	Referred to Law Enforcement
Z _o	Collegion

Halena's Lean On Me Child Care Center	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/16/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during the provider's failure to have attendance records available at the child care site when the department requested to review them;3) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 4) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children at the provider's 2429 N 40th St. facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 1/13/2011 at 9:00 AM and was unsuccessful in gaining access to the facility. The unsuccessful gaining the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Provider's Shares	Suspension Reason
Yes	Payment Stopped
\$25,057.50	Payment Overpayment Stopped Established
Yes	Referred to Law Enforcement
No	Collection

The Department has evidence that the provid Billed for more hours than children added.	During an onsite visit on 10/15/2009, the provider was unable to provide investigators with requested attendance records from 8/1/2009 through 8/7/2009.	provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendon 3/8/2011 at 8:45 AM even though the Department was unable to observe any children attendance.	was unsuccessful in gaining access to the facility. The unsuccessful attempt(s) to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Wisconsin Shares program for children who did not actually attend the provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the	The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children at the provider's 2430 N 40th St. facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 3/8/2011 at 8:45 AM and	the provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 1/13/2011 at 9:00 AM even though the Department was unable to observe any children in attendance.
he provider hildren actually	9, the provider with requested brough	rmed the g in attendance th the any children in	to the facility. fy the presence facility raises a t the provider rogram for I the provider's reviewed the	verify the er's 2430 N tempted to visit tempted to visit	ne Department ords and illdren as being AM even to observe any

the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records.	 Billed for
the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records.	 Billed for children who did not appear on

Just Like Home Childcare Center	Child Care Provider
Milwaukce	County
09/16/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during the provider's stated hours of operation; 2) the provider's failure to have attendance records available at the child care site when the department requested to review them; 3) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program and 4) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children at the provider's facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 3/11/2011 at 9:48 AM and 3/18/2011 at 11:22 AM and was unsuccessful attempt(s) to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Wisconsin Shares program for children who did not actually attend the	Suspension Reason
Yes	Payment Stepped
\$19,914.13	Overpayment Established F
Yes	Referred to Law Enforcement
Zo .	Collection

provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 3/11/2011 at 9:48 AM and
CALL CONCLUSION CAN USE FINANCE FOR STANSON OF THE

Kiddy World Day Care	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/16/2011	Suspension Date
all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program and 2) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The provider was licensed to provide licensed child care for no more than 480 hours per week (capacity 8 children, 5 days/week, open 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM[12 hours] 8x5x12=480) During the following weeks the provider reported providing child care that exceeded 480hours: • 6/26/2011 482 hours of attendance reported • 7/3/2011 542 hours of attendance reported • 7/3/2011 536 hours of attendance reported • 7/3/2011 536 hours of attendance reported • 7/3/2011 517 hours of attendance reported • 8/7/2011 517 hours of attendance reported • 8/14/2011 557 hours of attendance reported • 8/14/2011 557 hours of attendance reported	Suspension Reason The Department of Children and Families suspended
Y_{es}	Payment Stopped
\$14,488.61	Overpayment Established
₹g.	Referred to Law Enforcement
R	Collection

 Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records. 	 Billed for more hours than children actually attended. 	The Department has evidence that the provider:	The Department reviewed the provider's billing records for the identified periods of time above. Contrary to statute and rule, the provider billed the Wisconsin Shares program for more hours of care than the provider was authorized to provide according to the provider's child care license limit of 8 children in care at any one time during the provider's licensed hours of operation. The provider billed those excessive hours for all of the weeks listed above.
	, p. 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,		

	Stairway To	Child Care Provider
	Milwaukee	County
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA	09/16/2011	Suspension Date
The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children at the provider's facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 8/11/2011 at 1:05 PM and was unsuccessful in gaining access to the facility. The unsuccessful attempt(s) to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Wisconsin Shares program for children who did not actually attend the provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 8/11/2011 at 1:05	The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during the provider's stated hours of operation; 2) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program and 3) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program.	Suspension Reason
	Yes	Payment Stopped
	\$10,586.88	Overpayment Established
	Yes	Referred to (Law
	Z	Collection

on the attendance records.	 Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent 	attended.	Billed for more hours than children actually	The Department has evidence that the provider:	observe any children in attendance.	PM even though the Department was unable to
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Sugar Pea's Daycare	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/16/2011	Suspension Date
all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program and 2) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has evidence that the provider: Billed for more hours than children actually attended. Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records. Billed for children who were not in attendance. Billed for children no longer attending the provider's child care center, even after the provider's child care center, even after the provider's child care center.	Suspension Reason
Yes	Payment Stopped
\$12,662.06	Overpayment Established
Yes	Referred to C Law Enforcement
2	Collection

			The Learning Academy Llc	Child Care Provider
			Milwaukee	County
v value v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v	and the second section of the second section s	\$\$*\$\$\$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	09/16/2011	Suspension Date
 Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records. 	 Billed for more hours than children actually attended. 	The Department has evidence that the provider:	The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program and 2) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program.	Suspension Reason
			Yes	Payment Stopped
		A A SI III IN A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	\$19,792.46	Payment Overpayment Referred to Collection Stopped Established Law Enforcement
			Yes	Referred to Law Enforcement
	100, 100, 111, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100,		No	Collection

Cozy Corner Child Care Ii Milwaukee 09	Child Care Su Provider County
09/23/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during the provider's stated hours of operation; 2) the provider's failure to have attendance records available at the child care site when the department requested to review them; 3) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 4) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children at the provider's facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 4/1/2011, 5/19/2011, and 6/13/2011 and was unsuccessful attempt(s) to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a	Suspension Reason
${ m Yes}$	Payment Stopped
\$6,035.57	Overpayment Established
Yes	Referred to C Law Enforcement
No	Collection

provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 4/1/2011, 5/19/2011, and 6/13/2011 even though the Department was unable to observe any children in attendance. In addition, the Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children by the provider's facility as the Department was unsuccessful in gaining access to the facility on the following dates: 6/8/2010, 6/9/2010, 7/20/2010, 9/22/2010, 10/6/2011, and 6/16/2011. The provider was unable to provide investigators with requested attendance records from 6/5/2011 through 6/14/2011. Attendance records for Location 001 and Location 002 have two children signed in as attending overlapping periods of time at both locations on 10/28/2010 and one child signed in as attending overlapping periods of time at both locations on 10/15/2010. Billed for more hours than children actually attended. Billed for children who were not in attendance.			\$ ₩ →	р г 4 U 8 в в г 2 4 ч
	oce records for Location 001 ar 002 have two children signed overlapping periods of time a on 10/28/2010 and one child anding overlapping periods of the tions on 10/15/2010. The more hours than children actured in the control of the children who were not in the control of the control of the control of the control of the children who were not in the control of the	The Department has evidence that the provider's	The provider was unable to provide investigators with requested attendance records from 6/5/2011 through 6/14/2011.	provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 4/1/2011, 5/19/2011, and 6/13/2011 even though the Department was unable to observe any children in attendance. In addition, the Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children by the provider's facility as the Department was unsuccessful in gaining access to the facility on the following dates: 6/8/2010, 6/9/2010, 7/20/2010, 9/22/2010, 10/6/2010, 4/7/2011, 4/8/2011, 4/21/2011, 6/7/2011, and 6/16/2011.

Faith	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/23/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 2) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has evidence that the provider Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records. Billed for children when the provider's facility was closed for holidays. Billed for children when the provider's facility was closed due to inclement weather.	Suspension Reason
Yes	Payment Stopped
\$22,815.84	Overpayment Established
Yes	Referred to C Law Enforcement
Z	

	Kidzone Child	Child Care Provider
	Milwaukee	County
	09/23/2011	Suspension Date
The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children by the provider's facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 7/14/2011 and 8/3/2011 and was unsuccessful in gaining access to the facility. The unsuccessful attempt(s) to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Wisconsin Shares program for children who did not actually attend the provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on 7/14/2011 and 8/3/2011 even though the Department was unable to	The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during the provider's stated hours of operation; 2) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 3) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program.	Suspension Reason
	Yes	Payment Stopped
	\$2,366.87	Overpayment Established
	Yes	Referred to Law Enforcement
	Z o	Collection

 observe any children in attendance. The Department has evidence that the provider Billed for more hours than children actually attended. Billed for children who did not appear on the attendance records or were marked as absent on the attendance records.
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Small Wonders Family Child Care Center	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/23/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to provide access to the child care facility during the provider's stated hours of operation; 2) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 3) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. The Department has been unable to verify the actual care of children by the provider's facility. The Department attempted to visit the provider's facility on 7/21/2010, 7/30/2010, and 1/20/2011 and was unsuccessful attempt(s) to verify the presence of children attending the provider's facility raises a strong and reasonable suspicion that the provider was billing the Wisconsin Shares program for children who did not actually attend the provider's child care facility. The Department reviewed the provider's billing records and confirmed the provider billed for children as being in attendance on provider billed for children as being in attendance on provider billed for children as being in attendance on provider billed, 7/30/2010, and 1/20/2011 even though	Suspension Reason
Yes	Payment (Stopped
\$443.71	Overpayment Established
Yes	Referred to Law Enforcement
Zo	Collection

Wisconsin Shares Provider Suspensions September 2011

in care at the provider's facility.	same overlapping periods of time the provider was also billing for children being	 Was attending outside employment at the 	 Billed for more hours than children actually attended. 	The Department has evidence that the provider	the Department was unable to observe any children in attendance.
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Kare 4 Kids	Child Care Provider
Milwaukee	County
09/30/2011	Suspension Date
The Department of Children and Families suspended all Wisconsin Shares payments to the provider based on a reasonable suspicion that the provider violated provisions of the Wisconsin Shares program. The suspension was based upon a combination of red flags indicating a likelihood of Shares violations and the following findings from the Department's investigation including but not limited to: 1) the provider's failure to maintain and submit accurate attendance records as required by the Shares program; and 2) the provider's failure to comply with the statutes, promulgated rules, or policies of the Wisconsin Shares program. • Billed for more hours than children actually attended. • Billed for children who were not in attendance. • Billed for children no longer attending the parents stopped bringing their children to the provider's child care center.	Suspension Reason
Yes	Payment Stopped
\$4,571.25	Payment Overpayment Referred to Stopped Established Law Enforcement
Yes	•
No .	Collection